

CLAIMS

1. Telematic display device of the type comprising:
 - telecommunication means (18-19) capable of interacting with a data exchange network, and
 - a user interface (2-3) capable of interacting with the telecommunication means in order to display information drawn and data received, wherein the telecommunication means are contrived to receive meteorological data, from which is drawn a display on the user interface, characterised in that
 - the telecommunication means (18-19) are contrived to interact spontaneously with a station (20) in order on the one hand to define a geographical area, and on the other hand to access (21) substantially regularly a data set comprising rainfall forecast/duration pairs which are valid in the geographical area for consecutive periods, this data set being dated by a time mark generator;
 - the user interface (2) has a field of ordered display segments (5A to 5E) each capable of being displayed in plural states, and
 - the device comprising a pilot (23, 3) capable of reacting to the reception of a data set by updating the state of at least some of the display segments, selectively according to the rainfall forecast/duration pairs which the data received contain and according to the relation between the time mark generator of this set and a temporal reference of the segments.
2. Device according to claim 1, characterised in that the pilot processes the segments relative to a segment of origin (5A Fig. 2; 6B, Fig. 4) which indicates the temporal reference, modulo a selected periodicity, and in that upon receiving a data set, it updates at least the display segment(s) corresponding to new data.

3. Device according to either of claims 1 or 2, characterised in that the segment (5E) preceding that of the current forecast is subject to a distinctive display.
4. Device according to one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the user interface also comprises a display element of a time (Fig. 4), and in that the pilot is contrived furthermore to update this display element according to the time mark generator.
5. Device according to one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the user interface comprises a cursor (12) capable of designating one of the segments.
6. Device according to one of the preceding claims, wherein the user interface further comprises a dial (4) for the analogue display of the present time, characterised in that the ordered field of display segments (5A-5E) is the counterpart of the dial (4).
7. Device according to claim 6, taken in combination with claim 5, characterised in that the cursor has a minute hand (12) actuated according to the time mark generator.
8. Device according to one of the preceding claims, characterised in that it comprises a memory (processor 23) for storing at least some of the data received.
9. Device according to one of the preceding claims, characterised in that a data set received comprises (Fig. 6) a sequence of data blocks or symbols relating to short consecutive periods of rainfall forecast, the time mark generator relating to one of these blocks and, in that upon each reception, the user interface pilot is contrived to make the state of the

segments correspond to the respective contents of at least some of the said data blocks.

10. Device according to claim 9, characterised in that the short period associated with a data block is about 1 minute.
11. Device according to either of claims 9 or 10, characterised in that the sequence of data blocks of one set relates to an overall duration at least equal to about three hours.
12. Device according to claim 11, characterised in that the overall duration is about 1 hour.
13. Device according to one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the field of segments (5A to 5E) extends in a substantially linear form (Fig. 5).
14. Device according to one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the field of segments (5A to 5E) extends in a substantially circular form (Figures 2, 4).
15. Device according to the preceding claim, characterised in that the telecommunication means interact with a station (20) in a manner capable of effecting at least partly the definition of the geographical area.
16. Device according to one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the definition of the geographical area is effected at least partly by data transmitted by the telecommunication means (20).
17. Device according to one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the telecommunication means interact with the network according to a period of about 5 minutes.

18. Device according to claim 17, characterised in that the period is longer than about 1 minute.
19. Device according to one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the rainfall forecasts represent the following rainfall states: absence of rain, fine or light rain, heavy or intense rain.
20. Device according to claim 20, characterised in that the absence of rain is displayed on the user interface by a continuous light colour, the fine or light rain by lines, and the heavy or intense rain by a continuous dark coloration.
21. Device according to one of the preceding claims, characterised in that the geographical area has a dimension substantially equal to 1 km².
22. Method of telematic signalling, comprising the following stages:
 - a. interrogate a remote station in order to receive meteorological data therefrom,
 - b. display locally a representation of these meteorological data, characterised in that
 - stage a. is carried out spontaneously and repetitively in a manner which makes it possible to define a geographical area and to have access substantially regularly (21) to a data set comprising rainfall forecast/duration pairs which are valid in the geographical area for consecutive periods, this data set being dated by a time mark generator,
 - stage b. comprises both updating of the display segments (5A to 5E) ordered according to a field, and each being capable of being displayed in plural states selectively according to the rainfall forecast/duration pairs which the data received contain and according to the relation between the time mark generator of this set and a temporal reference of the segments.

23. Method according to claim 22, characterised in that the repetition of the stages takes place periodically, the period being about 5 minutes.
24. Method according to claim 23, characterised in that the period of repetition of the stages is more than about 1 minute.
25. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterised in that stage b. comprises the display of a distinctive state for the segment (5E) which precedes that of the current forecast.
26. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterised in that stage b. also comprises the updating according to the time mark generator of a display element of a time (Fig. 4) which the user interface comprises.
27. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterised in that it comprises display on the user interface of the time relating to the display of the meteorological data according to a time mark generator and the temporal reference of the segments.
28. Method according to one of the preceding claims, characterised in that stage a. comprises the reception of a data set which comprises (Fig. 6) a sequence of data blocks or symbols relating to short consecutive periods of rainfall forecasting, the time mark generator relating to one of the blocks, and in that at each update, stage b. comprises placing in correspondence of the state of the segments with the respective contents of at least some of the data blocks.